



Updated Harris County Public Health Statement: 3/19/2019, 11:00am

As Harris County Public Health (HCPH) continues to work with our response partners to monitor the chemical plant fire in Deer Park, our public health concern continues to remain for the health and safety of the community.

Based on current air monitoring reports, there continues to be a low risk to the community because the smoke is several thousand feet above the ground. However, since this is an evolving situation, Harris County Public Health recommends that any individuals who feel they are experiencing symptoms should contact their healthcare provider.

Common symptoms may include coughing; difficulty breathing; burning, irritation and redness to skin, eyes, nose, and throat. Individuals may also experience headaches, nausea, or dizziness. The elderly, children, pregnant women, those who have respiratory issues, and those who are immunosuppressed may be especially impacted. Pets should be taken into consideration as well.

The fires can lead to strong feelings of distress or other mental health concerns. You can call the National [@Distressline](#) (call 1-800-985-5990 or text TalkWithUs to 66746) which offers 24/7 emotional support.

HCPH will continue to working with partners, including hospitals, to monitor the ongoing situation and will provide updates accordingly.